

[(cc)] (O) "Slope" means an inclined opening in a dipping coal or fireclay bed, and an inclined tunnel to a coal or fireclay bed.

[(dd)] (P) "Superintendent" means the person who, on behalf of the operator, has immediate supervision of a mine.

[(ee)] "Survey" means the Maryland Geological Survey.

[(ff)] "Tunnel" means a level or inclined passageway driven mainly through barren strata. It may or may not come to the surface.

[(gg)] "Ventilating current" means a current of air circulating throughout the mine excavation, containing not less than 19.5 percent oxygen nor more than 0.75 percent carbon dioxide.]

[(hh)] (Q) "Working place" means a room, breast, entry crosscut, or pillar where [either] coal [or fire clay] is being mined or extracted and where at least one miner per working shift of the mine regularly is employed until the place is finished or stopped.

7-203.

(a) The Bureau shall supervise the execution and enforcement of any law enacted for the health and safety of persons and protection and conservation of property within, about, or related to bituminous coal mines [or strippings] in the State. To this end, it shall adopt and enforce necessary rules and regulations after giving due notice.

(b) The Bureau shall compile, publish, and distribute to interested persons, the mining laws and rules and regulations. The publication shall be made at reasonable times to keep the laws and rules and regulations current. The Bureau shall keep a record of any inspection or investigation and a copy of any official communication or record of work to be done. It shall preserve any report, statistics, and information received relating to the development of coal or other mining, or the enforcement of the provisions of this title. [Any report relating to inspection or investigation, and other pertinent mining information shall be prepared at least quarterly and distributed upon request to any person or organization interested in mining conditions in the State.]

[(c)] The Bureau may promulgate and distribute upon request to any interested person or corporation engaged in fireclay mining a copy of the applicable laws and rules and regulations which it may promulgate relating to fireclay mining and the operation of this type mine.

[(d)] (C) The Bureau shall encourage and assist reasonable efforts to improve mining methods and conditions

---